

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 291
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor Marshall Whisnant on the occasion of
his retirement from the Methodist Medical Center
in Oak Ridge.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body recognize those citizens who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion and are approaching important milestones in their distinguished careers; and

WHEREAS, Marshall Whisnant is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acuity as president of the Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge for 28 years; and

WHEREAS, endowed with uncommon insight, wisdom, unparalleled skills, and a genuine concern for the welfare of others, Mr. Whisnant is credited with the evolution of this local medical center into a highly successful regional medical facility, which serves a five county area; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Ridge area was certainly fortunate when Mr. Whisnant accepted a position with the Medical Center in 1967; Mr. Whisnant had previously served as assistant director of another successful Tennessee hospital, Holston Valley Hospital in Kingsport; and

WHEREAS, with Marshall Whisnant at the helm, the Methodist Medical Center's staff has more than doubled, the Center has undergone transformation into a state-of-the-art facility, and annual operating funds have increased from \$100,000 to nearly \$50,000,000; and

WHEREAS, this year, Mr. Whisnant and the Center graciously accepted the Tennessee Quality Achievement Award for an unprecedented third year in a row, an accolade directly attributable to Mr. Whisnant's successful Quality Together program; and

WHEREAS, with Quality Together, the Center has seen the advent of problem-solving teams and management working together diligently to increase patient satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the introduction of quality programs, facility expansions during Mr. Whisnant's tenure have included a new physical therapy department and food service area, addition of the west wing, enlargement of the emergency room and X-ray department, enlargement of the surgery suite and intensive care unit, expansion of the birthing center, completion of the cancer center and addition of the Physicians Plaza and Medical Park buildings; and

WHEREAS, a knowledgeable observer has observed that Mr. Whisnant has "demonstrated progressive and thoughtful leadership" and because of his diligence and dedication, the facility has earned "an enviable reputation as a leader in Tennessee health care"; and

WHEREAS, ever one to shoulder the mantle of professional responsibility, this well-respected administrator has served as chairman of the Tennessee Hospital Association and has given unreservedly of himself as the only hospital representative on the Tennessee Health Facilities Commission; and

WHEREAS, living a life of service which goes far beyond the spectrum of his employment, Mr. Whisnant has been an active and vital member of numerous civic organizations and he plans to continue his public service long after his much deserved retirement from the Methodist Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, his many successes aside, Mr. Whisnant is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Ashlyn, and their three children, David Whisnant, Suzie Whisnant Daugherty and Meredith Whisnant; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the members of this Assembly should acknowledge their profound appreciation and gratitude to one of Tennessee's finest professionals and most esteemed citizens, Marshall Whisnant, as he answers the tantalizing call of retirement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Marshall Whisnant for a lifetime of service to the health care profession and wish him well as he takes a much deserved retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.

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